

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 5.

Please amend the claims as follows:

~~B1~~ 1. (Twice Amended) An etchant solution which selectively etches borophosphosilicate glass over tetraethyl orthosilicate, said etchant solution comprising an organic acid and a fluoride-containing solution, wherein the organic acid is in a volumetric ratio with the fluoride-containing solution at about 10:1 to about 500:1.

~~B2~~ 4. ^{Twice} (Amended) The etchant of claim 1, wherein said organic acid comprises glacial acetic acid and said fluoride-containing solution comprises 49% hydrofluoric acid by weight in water.

~~B3~~ 6. (Twice Amended) The etchant of claim [5] 4, wherein said acetic acid is in a volumetric ratio with said hydrofluoric acid at about 10:1 to about 100:1.

~~B4~~ 7. ^{Twice} (Amended) The etchant of claim 1, wherein said organic acid comprises glacial acetic acid and said fluoride-containing solution comprises 40% ammonium fluoride by weight in water.

~~B5~~ 8. (Amended) The etchant of claim 1, wherein said etchant solution [includes] exhibits a selectivity ratio of borophosphosilicate glass to tetraethyl orthosilicate between about 27:1 and 55:1.

Please add the following new claims:

~~B6~~ 9. An etchant solution which selectively etches borophosphosilicate glass over tetraethyl orthosilicate, said etchant solution comprising an organic acid and a fluoride-containing solution, wherein the etchant solution exhibits a selectivity ratio of borophosphosilicate glass to tetraethyl orthosilicate between about 27:1 and 55:1.

10. The etchant of claim 9, wherein the organic acid is selected from the group consisting of acetic acid, formic acid, and oxalic acid.

11. The etchant of claim 9, wherein the fluoride-containing solution is selected from the group consisting of hydrofluoric acid and ammonium fluoride.

12. The etchant of claim 9, wherein the organic acid comprises glacial acetic acid and the fluoride-containing solution comprises 49% hydrofluoric acid by weight in water.

13. The etchant of claim 12, wherein the acetic acid is in a volumetric ratio with the hydrofluoric acid at about 1:1 to about 500:1.

14. The etchant of claim 12, wherein the acetic acid is in a volumetric ratio with the hydrofluoric acid at about 10:1 to about 100:1.

15. The etchant of claim 9, wherein the organic acid comprises glacial acetic acid and the fluoride-containing solution comprises 40% ammonium fluoride by weight in water.--

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed April 20, 2000, has been received and reviewed. Claims 1 through 8 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1 through 8 stand rejected. Applicants have amended the claims and respectfully request reconsideration of the application as amended herein.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Anticipation Rejections

Anticipation Rejection Based on U.S. Patent No. 5,300,463 to Cathey et al.

Claims 1 through 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cathey et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,300,463)(hereinafter "Cathey"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as hereinafter set forth.